CITY OF YORK.

FOURTH GENERAL REPORT

OF THE

PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

1896-7.

YORK:
BEN JOHNSON & CO., PRINTERS, STATIONERS, LITHOGRAPHERS, AND BOOKBINDERS.
1897.

CITY OF YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY.

COMMITTEE FOR 1896-7.

THE RT. HONOURABLE SIR CHRISTOPHER ANNAKIN MILWARD, KT., LORD MAYOR.

Chairman: ALDERMAN WILLIAM McKAY, J.P.

Vice-Chairman: ALDERMAN E. W. PURNELL.

Alderman Rymer, J.P.
,, Clayton, J.P.
Councillor Mann.
,, Oakley.
,, Manton.
,, Pearson.
,, Parkinson.
(Died 22nd May, 1897.)

Councillor A. Jones.
,, Chapman.
,, Pick.
,, Staines.
,, Petch.
,, G. H. F. Jones.
,, Teale.
,, Atkinson.

Councillor Milburn.

AND

J. S. Rowntree, Esq., J.P.
T. P. Bulmer, Esq.

Tempest Anderson, Esq., M.D., J.P.
W. W. Morrell, Esq., J.P.

D. S. Mackay, Esq.

Town Clerk: WILLIAM HENRY ANDREW.

Public Librarian: ARTHUR H. FURNISH.

Assistant Librarian: F. BEWLAY.

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1896/97

CITY OF YORK.

FOURTH GENERAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMITTEE

26 AP 1957.

The Public Library Committee have had satisfaction in approving the following Report of the Public Librarian on the working of the Library for the year ending the 31st May, 1897:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

The Stocktaking having been completed, I beg to place before you my Report on the work of the Library for the year 1896-97.

The Stock in the Lending Department has increased from 12,819 to 13,433 volumes. The additions have numbered 718, but the total is affected by a reduction of 104 in rebinding or replacing works now contained in fewer volumes than formerly. In addition, 110 volumes have been obtained for replacements. In the Reference Department the Stock catalogued for use consists of 4,308 volumes as against 3,710 last year, shewing a net increase of 598, and 214 unbound pamphlets. The total Stock therefore consists of 17,741 volumes and 214 pamphlets, without including Blue Books, &c., which are also available for Readers' use, or a Reserve Stock of 124 volumes, chiefly duplicates, which will be found useful in the replacement of worn-out books. A hundred and fifty volumes have been re-cased, and 805 re-bound. The expenditure under this head has been kept down to the lowest point, minor repairs being done by the staff whenever possible. One volume only has been lost during the year, the borrower—his own guarantor—having left the country. Only two volumes have been lost since the opening of the Library in 1893.

The total Issues for the year have numbered 152,335 volumes, 2,709 having been for reading in the Reference Department. The most accurate method of ascertaining the use of the Lending Department is by counting the actual number of persons to whom books have been issued rather than the number of volumes so issued. So ascertained, the Lending Library Issues have numbered 138,800 as against 149,941. This shews an apparent decrease of 11,141, but, as the Library was open six days less than in the previous year, the comparison is misleading. The daily average gives 522 borrowers against 547, a decrease of 25. Against this may be set an increase in the Reference Department, where 2,709 volumes have been issued as against 1,975, and a much larger use of Directories, &c., the issues of which are not recorded.

The character of the home reading remains pretty much the same as in former years, poetry still having the smallest demand. Over 5,600 applications were made for works on the Arts and Sciences, 4,700 for Biography and History, over 3,000 for Travels, and 1,500 for Theology and Philosophy. Neglectful borrowers had to be written to some 800 times, and, in addition. a considerable number of personal calls had to be made. Between ten and eleven

Cooper Union Institute - Library

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thousand Fines, chiefly of very small amounts, were paid, a receipt being made out in duplicate in every case, the total amount so received being £77 2s. 4d. The usefulness of the Rule requiring a guarantor in the case of persons not on the Municipal Register is often seen, and much time and trouble would be saved if the rule applied to all borrowers, whether on the Citizens' Roll or not. The neglect of borrowers to report their change of address is still a difficulty which apparently cannot be overcome. The number of Borrowers' Tickets now in force is 5,461, a net increase of 172 on the year. The publication of a printed Supplement to the Lending Library Catalogue has been welcomed by readers, who also appreciate the kindness of the Editors of the *Yorkshire Gazette* and the *Yorkshire Chronicle*, who have published Lists of Books added to the Library.

The popularity of the News and Magazine Rooms is still continued, about 375,000 visits having been made during the year. Whilst strict economy is necessarily exercised in the administration of the Library, it should be noted that further expense will presently have to be incurred in the replacement of a larger number of worn-out copies of the most popular works, and a greater expenditure on new books, further shelf accommodation, &c., is desirable.

Though there are, of course, complaints as to the insufficiency of copies of new books, the absence of other complaints is very gratifying, and the frequent expressions of satisfaction by the borrowers generally shew that the Library is highly valued by the Public.

I have the honour to remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ARTHUR H. FURNISH.

Public Library, York,
June 24th, 1897.

It is again the pleasing duty of the Committee to express their sincere thanks to all who have helped the Library by their gifts during the year. Especially are they due to Lord Wenlock for his admirable Lecture on "Madras" on the 15th February last, and to the Executors of the late Charles Ernest for a useful bequest of books; but to all who have assisted the Library, the Committee tender their grateful acknowledgments.

The Committee have again to express their deep regret at the loss by death of two of their number, Mr. Councillor C. Anderson and Mr. Councillor John Parkinson.

Reference to the Accounts in the Appendix shews that the financial position of the Library is satisfactory, and with the economical working of the past year the Committee have been enabled to reduce the amount owing for books purchased by £95 9s. 6d. A large item in the payments occurs each year, viz., the amount required to liquidate the debt on the purchase money, furniture, alterations, and Electric Light Fittings, with Interest on the Capital sum borrowed. Last year the amount required was £326 13s. 4d. Since the Library building was purchased there has been contributed out of Revenue Account to the Sinking Fund £521 1s. 6d., and paid in Interest on money borrowed £616 13s. 6d., making together £1137 15s.

(Signed) WM. McKAY,
Chairman.

APPENDIX.

LENDING LIBRARY STOCK.

Volumes in the Lending Library, year ending May 31st, 1896 ...		12,819
Added since:—		
By Purchase	529	
By Gift	189	
		718
		13,537
Reduction in Re-binding and Re-placing*		104
Total Volumes in Stock, May 31st, 1897		13,433

*196 Volumes have been replaced during the past year by 110 Volumes, and 33 Volumes have been rebound into 18.

ANALYSIS OF LENDING LIBRARY STOCK.

Class.	Stock, May 31st, 1896.		Present Stock.	
	Works.	Volumes.	Works.	Volumes.
A Theology, Philosophy, &c.	523	577	553	609
B Biography, History	1431	1912	1528	2039
C Travel, &c.	526	593	557	623
D Arts and Sciences, &c.	1227	1302	1290	1369
F Fiction...	4597	5681	4876	5876
G Poetry and Drama	314	406	332	425
H Essays and General Literature ...	1051	1238	1165	1367
J Juvenile Literature	1110	1110	1125	1125
	10779	12819	11426	13433

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT—STOCK ACCOUNT.

Volumes in Stock year ending May 31st, 1896...		3710
Added since:		
By Purchase	26	
By Gift	609	
		635
		4345
Deduct Books Withdrawn and Transferred		37
Total Volumes in Stock May 31st, 1897		4308
Reserve Stock (chiefly Duplicates)		124
Unbound Pamphlets		214

ANALYSIS OF REFERENCE LIBRARY STOCK.

Class.	Stock, 1896.	Present Stock.
0 General Works	543	825
1 Philosophy	47	66
2 Religion	309	315
3 Sociology	196	253
4 Philology	91	93
5 Natural Science	331	350
6 Useful Arts	170	173
7 Fine Arts	233	278
8 Literature	581	618
9 History, Biography, and Travel	1209	1337
	3710	4308

NUMBER OF ISSUES.—LENDING DEPARTMENT.

Month.	A Theology. Philosophy.	B Biography & History.	C Travel.	D Arts and Sciences.	F Fiction.	G Poetry and Drama.	H Essays and General Literature.	J Juvenile Literature.	Total.	Daily Average
1896-7.										
June ...	59	216	141	249	5073	47	216	1002	7003	466
July ...	88	327	213	402	7624	76	316	1515	10561	440
August	112	343	211	390	7830	47	315	1601	10849	471
Septr....	107	385	274	532	8601	85	408	1860	12252	510
October	157	447	291	595	9710	94	414	2040	13748	550
Nov. ...	151	445	250	490	8804	107	403	1784	12434	540
Dec. ...	142	384	254	434	8070	105	411	1693	11493	534
January	152	512	352	579	9876	123	445	1933	13972	582
Feb. ...	161	472	359	553	8966	116	450	1736	12813	582
March	156	483	332	593	9602	98	454	1869	13587	543
April ...	137	387	281	455	8176	88	378	1530	11432	530
May ...	88	306	212	350	6372	66	257	1005	8656	488
	1510	4707	3170	5622	98704	1052	4467	19568	138800	522

NUMBER OF VOLUMES ISSUED.—LENDING DEPARTMENT.

Month.	A Theology. Philosophy.	B Biography & History.	C Travel.	D Arts and Sciences.	F Fiction.	G Poetry and Drama.	H Essays and General Literature.	J Juvenile Literature.	Total.	Daily Average
1896-7.										
June ...	59	219	143	251	5683	47	217	1002	7621	508
July ...	88	331	214	403	8529	78	321	1515	11479	478
August	112	346	216	390	8724	47	316	1601	11752	510
Sept. ..	107	393	275	535	9681	88	416	1860	13355	556
October	157	450	298	598	10891	95	416	2040	14945	597
Nov. ...	151	461	256	494	9857	108	407	1784	13518	587
Dec. ...	142	392	259	437	8839	105	413	1693	12280	571
January	153	525	355	582	10919	125	448	1933	15040	622
Feb. ...	161	486	362	554	9874	121	451	1736	13745	624
March	156	496	337	597	10567	100	458	1869	14580	583
April ..	137	394	284	458	8855	88	381	1530	12127	561
May ...	88	310	214	353	6890	66	258	1005	9184	510
	1511	4803	3213	5652	109309	1068	4502	19568	149626	562

NUMBER OF VOLUMES ISSUED.—REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

Month.	0 General Works.	1 Philosophy.	2 Religion.	3 Sociology.	4 Philology.	5 Natural Science.	6 Useful Arts.	7 Fine Arts.	8 Literature.	9 History, Biography, and Travel.	Total.
1896-7.											
June ...	22	0	21	14	3	15	7	6	9	71	168
July ..	45	2	16	5	9	11	18	16	28	173	323
August ...	33	1	22	1	24	7	11	11	41	85	236
September	30	0	5	6	8	9	7	8	37	81	191
October ...	21	7	6	6	18	9	7	7	19	85	185
November	19	3	8	11	7	14	16	7	26	96	207
December	38	1	11	3	17	28	49	15	10	40	212
January ...	33	4	13	17	7	19	43	12	17	56	221
February	29	4	11	6	4	20	23	1	33	61	192
March ...	56	1	45	14	21	29	27	2	21	72	288
April ...	42	0	12	22	13	13	4	4	20	65	195
May ...	23	0	14	31	16	8	33	5	68	93	291
	391	23	184	136	147	182	245	94	329	978	2709

MAGAZINE ROOM ATTENDANCES.

Date.	Days Open.	Total Attendances.	Daily Average.
1896-7.			
June	26	4917	189
July	27	5279	195
August	25	5228	209
September	26	6098	234
October	27	6292	233
November	25	5650	226
December	23	5635	245
January	26	7556	290
February	24	6373	277
March	27	6297	233
April	24	5317	221
May	26	4760	183
	306	69402	226

NEWS ROOM ATTENDANCES.

Date.	Days Open.	Total Attendances.	Daily Average.
1896-7.			
June	26	20,858	802
July	27	21,814	818
August	26	22,350	869
September	26	23,920	920
October	27	25,259	935
November	25	22,998	919
December	26	29,202	1081
January	26	29,824	1147
February	24	28,217	1226
March	27	30,856	1143
April	24	25,451	1018
May	26	24,835	955
	310	305,584	985

TABLE OF BORROWERS.

Tickets available for use June 1st, 1897.

Males—Persons on Citizens' List	1416	
„ —Not on Citizens' List	1672	
		3088
Females—Persons on Citizens' List	235	
„ —Not on Citizens' List	2138	
		2373
		5461

RECEIPTS FOR CATALOGUES, VOUCHER FORMS, & FINES.

	Catalogues or Supplements.				Vouchers.				Fines.				Total.		
	No.	£	s.	d.	No.	£	s.	d.	No.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1896-7.															
June	8	0	6	0	110	0	9	2	316	3	19	3	4	14	5
July	14	0	10	6	136	0	11	4	765	5	4	9	6	6	7
August ...	8	0	6	0	192	0	16	0	891	7	0	0	8	2	0
September	24	0	18	0	300	1	5	0	879	6	7	3	8	10	3
October ...	19	0	14	3	293	1	4	5	907	6	0	5	7	19	1
November	125	2	10	10	225	0	18	9	959	6	12	2	10	1	9
December	199	3	13	5	192	0	16	0	968	6	13	9	11	3	2
January...	141	2	14	11	254	1	1	2	1032	8	1	0	11	17	1
February..	106	2	7	0	232	0	19	4	782	5	0	2	8	6	6
March.....	65	1	7	6	196	0	16	4	877	6	8	10	8	12	8
April	37	0	14	10	106	0	8	10	942	7	12	8	8	16	4
May	23	0	9	9	113	0	9	5	1086	8	2	1	9	1	3
	769	16	13	0	2349	9	15	9	10404	77	2	4	103	11	1

LIST OF DONATIONS.

	Vols. or Pamphlets.
Agent General for New South Wales	6
Animals' Protection Society ...	1
Anon	15
Backhouse, James	1
Backhouse, Miss	1
Benecke, Ida, London	2
British Museum Trustees ...	4
Browne, T. B., London	1
Bulmer, Rev. E.	2
Bulmer, T. P.	1
Burton, Lady, Executors of ...	2
Butcher, J. G., Q.C., M.P. ...	4
Butcher, Prof. S. H.	6
Chaloner, T. W.	2
Clark, J. E., B.A.	2
Commissioner for Labour, London	3
Cook, W. J. & Co., Boston ...	1
Digby, Long & Co.	1
Ernest, Charles, Executors of ...	488
Empson, H. W., J.P.	3
Finney, A.	1
French, A. D. W.	1
Gowing, Richard, Kent	1
Great Eastern Railway Co. ...	3
Grant, J., Edinbro'	1
Hay, Col., C.B., London ...	1
Heinemann, W., London	1
Hill, J. R., J.P.	1
Howard, J.	1
Hutton, A. W.	1
Johnson, B. & Co.	1
Johnson, George, Ottowa	1
Kleiser, C. J.	3
Koek, Mrs.	4
Leng & Co., Dundee	1
Manton, Councillor...	1
Morrell, W. W., J.P.	5
Newall, Major-General, London ...	2
Pease, Alfred, M.P.	2
Raimes, H., Acaster	2
Rawson, Ald., Manchester... ...	1
Richardson, John, Lincoln	1
Robson, Mr.	5
Thompson, H. M.	1
University Correspondence College Press	2
Voysey, C., London	1
Waddington, Mr.	2
Walker, Charles, Shropshire ...	1
York Institute (not previously acknowledged)	185
Yorkshire College, Leeds, per Secretary...	1

PERIODICALS AND NEWSPAPERS FROM THE FOLLOWING:—Mr. Allright, Miss Backhouse, W. Cooper, J. E. Clark, B.A., The Rev. Provost Dawson, Robert Kay, J. S. Martin, Thomas Place, Mr. Sanderson, The Rev. T. Smith; and the Proprietors of the Admiralty and Horse Guards Gazette, Arms and Explosives, Clerk of Works, Emigrant, Llandudno Advertiser, Magic Lantern Journal, Musical Herald, New Church Magazine, Nottingham Daily Express, Official Journal of Patents, Positivist Review, Protestant Observer, Woman's Signal, Whitby Gazette.

REPORTS FROM THE FOLLOWING PUBLIC LIBRARIES.—Aberdeen, Ashton-under-Lyne (Heginbottom), Baltimore City, U.S.A. (Enoch Pratt), Belfast, Birmingham, Blackburn, Bolton, Bootle, Bradford, Brentford, Burnley (Mechanics' Institute), Cardiff, Carlisle, Cork, Darlington (Edward Pease), Derby, Glasgow (Baillie's & Stirling's), Hove, Kidderminster, Kingston-upon-Hull, Kingston-upon-Thames, London:—Battersea, Clerkenwell, Fulham, Hammersmith, Holborn, Kilburn, St. George, St. Giles, St. Martin-in-the-Fields, St. Marylebone, Shoreditch, Streatham, West Ham, Willesden Green; Leamington, Leicester, Leyton, Lincoln, Liverpool, Longton, Middlesbrough, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Norwich, Nottingham, Preston, Portsmouth, Sheffield, Southampton, St. Helens, St. Louis, U.S.A., Sunderland, Swansea, West Hartlepool, Wigan, Wolverhampton, York Railway Institute.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS SUPPLIED TO THE READING ROOM.

DAILIES.

Daily Graphic.
Daily News (2 copies).
Daily Telegraph (2 copies).
Eastern Morning News.
Freeman's Journal.
Leeds Evening Express.
Leeds Mercury (2 copies).
Liverpool Mercury.
London Chronicle.
Manchester Guardian.
Morning Post.
Newcastle Chronicle.
Newcastle Daily Leader.
Northern Echo.
*Nottingham Daily Express.
Pall Mall Gazette.
Scotsman.
Sheffield Telegraph.
Standard (2 copies).
Times.
Westminster Gazette.
York Evening Press (2 copies).
Yorkshire Evening Post (2 copies).
Yorkshire Herald (3 copies).
Yorkshire Post (2 copies).

* Presented.

WEEKLIES.

Athenæum.
Black and White.
Boys' Own Paper.
British Journal of Photography.
Builder.
*Catholic Standard.
*Catholic Times.
*Church News.
*Co-operative News (2 copies).
Engineer.
English Mechanic.
Era.
Exchange and Mart (3 times weekly).
*Feathered World.
Field.
Figaro.
Fun.
Gentlewoman.
Girl's Own Paper
Graphic (2 copies).
Horticultural Journal.
Illustrated London News (2 copies).
Judy.
Lady's Pictorial.
Leeds Mercury Supplement.
Live Stock Journal
*Llandudno Advertiser.
*Midland Counties Herald.
Money Market Review.
Moonshine.
*Official Journal of Patents.
Phonetic Journal.
Punch.
Queen.
Railway News.
Saturday Review.
Scarbro' Gazette.
Schoolmaster.
Schoolmistress.
*Scientific American.
Speaker.
Spectator.
*Tablet.
Technical World.
Truth.
*Two Worlds.
*University Correspondent.
Weekly Northern Whig.
Whitby Times.
*Whitby Gazette.
Work.
World.
Yorkshire Gazette (2 copies).

* Presented.

MONTHLIES.

*Admiralty and Horse Guards Gazette.
*Agents' Journal.
*Animal World.
*Anti-Slavery Reporter.
*Anti-Tobacco Journal.
*Arbitrator.
Argosy.
*Arms and Explosives.
*Blackpool Times.
Bradshaw's Railway Guide.
Cassell's Family Magazine.
Century Magazine.
*Church Gleaner.
Chambers's Journal.
*Clerk of Works.
*Concord.
Contemporary Review.
Cornhill Magazine.
*Emigrant.
English Illustrated Magazine.
Fortnightly Review.
*Golden Age.
Good Words.
Harper's Magazine.
*Herald of Peace.
*Insurance Agent and Review.
Investor's Manual.
Investor's Review.
Knowledge.
*Labour Gazette.
*Labour Prophet.
Leisure Hour.
*Liberator.
*Liberty Review.
Longman's Magazine.
Macmillan's Magazine.
Magazine of Art.
*Magic Lantern Journal.
*Musical Herald.
Musical Times.
*New Church Magazine.
Nineteenth Century.
*Oddfellow's Magazine (2 copies).
*Positivist Review.
*Priory Street Monthly Messenger
Quiver
*Rechabite Magazine.
Reporter's Journal.
Review of Reviews.
Scribner's Magazine.
*Sons of Temperance.
Strand Magazine.
*Temperance Advocate.
*Tongues of Fire.
Temple Bar.
*War or Brotherhood.
*Woman's Signal.
*Zoophilist.

* Presented.

*RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

North Eastern; London and South Western; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire; London and North Western; Great Western; London, Brighton, and South Coast; Midland; Great Northern; Lancashire and Yorkshire; London, Chatham, and Dover; Caledonian; South Eastern; Great Eastern; North British.

*Presented.

NOTES.

Population of the City, 1891	67,004
Library Rate of One Penny produces	£1,042
Library Acts adopted 15th October, 1891.	
News-Room opened, 1st August, 1892.	
Library opened by H.R.H. The Duke of York, 5th October, 1893.	
Library Stock (Lending) at opening (in Vols.)	10,417
Library Stock (Lending) at present time	13,433
Reference Stock	4,308
Total Volumes Issued from commencement	642,487
Total Attendances at Magazine and News-Rooms	1,778,353
Present Number of Borrowers	5,461

York Institute (now the Public Library) acquired by York Corporation, September 1st, 1891.

York Institute Foundation Stone laid by H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, July 18th, 1883.

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